

Council Orders Renewal Project Area Sold

(Story in Column 1)

Torrance

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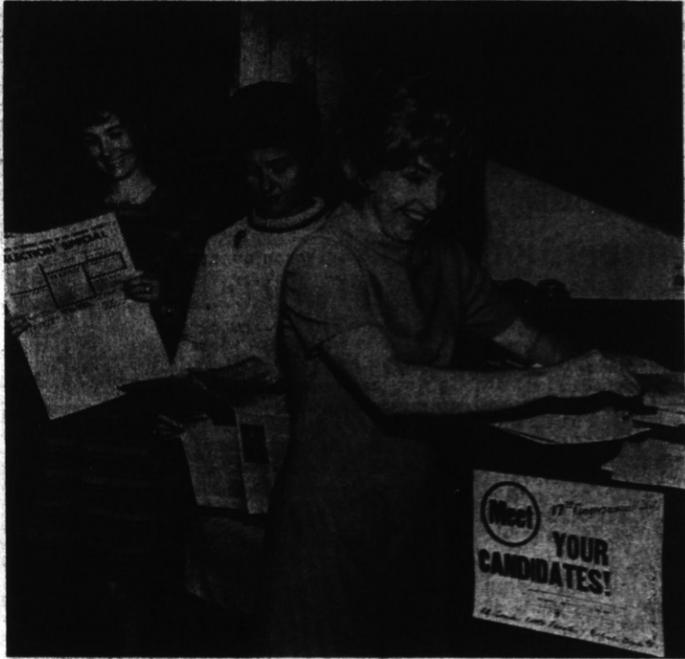
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PLAN MEETING . . . Discussing plans for a "Meet the Candidates" night to be held next Monday at 8 p.m. in the El Camino College Little Theatre are members of the Torrance League of Women Voters. They are Mrs. Miles Parker, Mrs. Francis Connors, and Mrs. William Birdsall. Mrs. Birdsall, voters service chairman, said the meeting would feature candidates for Congress in the 17th District. (Press-Herald Photo)

Teachers, Board Agree On New Salary Plan

Compromise on Teachers' Pay Wins Approval

By JERRY REYNOLDS
Press-Herald City Editor

Salary increases averaging slightly more than 8 per cent were granted Torrance teachers Friday afternoon during a 40-minute special session of the Torrance Board of Education.

Trustees unanimously approved a compromise proposal hammered out Wednesday during a day-long session of the district's Negotiating Council. The council is composed of representatives of the Torrance Education Association and Dr. Robert Morton, assistant superintendent of schools who represents the Board of Education.

Approval of the salary increases averted a possible walkout by teachers, who had hinted earlier in the week they might try to close the city's schools if the board failed to bow to their salary demands.

UNDER TERMS of the salary proposal adopted Friday, teachers will get an across-the-board raise of 7 per cent and the salary schedule was readjusted to provide for 13 instead of 14 steps. Effect of the adjustment is to grant most teachers raises in excess of 8 per cent.

Cost of the package was estimated at \$1.2 million. The new salary schedule will give a new teacher a minimum salary of \$6,634 annually, while the maximum is now set at \$13,057.

TRUSTEE Bert M. Lynn set tone of the brief meeting when he praised the leadership of the TEA for its reasonable and responsible attitude, then said, "It is not with reluctance that I agree to sup-

port the 7 per cent, 13-step schedule."

Mrs. Kenneth E. Watts made the motion to approve the Negotiating Council proposal, commenting that "some of it goes down a little hard." But, Mrs. Watts added, "We recognize how important it is to establish procedures to be able to work with teachers' representatives. Torrance has come a long way this year."

Trustees, however, failed to act on two other proposals before the Negotiating Council.

ONE, the "extra pay for extra duty" proposal, failed when newly appointed trustee Burton Belzer again abstained in the voting. The board deadlocked at 2-2 on the issue.

A second proposal to raise administrative salaries was tabled because the board has hired a consultant to study both administrative salaries and duties. Trustees asked that the study be expedited and indicated it would act on the salary issue before the new fiscal year begins July 1.

Members of the Negotiating Council called a hurried meeting when the administrative salary issue was tabled, but returned to the board meeting to report it had "no objections" to the delay.

BELZER, commenting on his abstention, said he was still studying the matter of extra pay for teachers who advise school clubs and do other extra duties. He said he has asked for two weeks to study the issue and had only Friday received some of the material he had requested.

"My attitude is not fixed," he commented.

City May Purchase Meadow Park Area

City Councilmen want private enterprise to take over the city's Meadow Park urban renewal project as soon as possible. And a prime customer for the project site (now owned by the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Torrance) is the city itself.

Sitting as the Redevelopment Agency at Thursday's council meeting, the seven local legislators voted unanimously to sell project land and at the first opportunity. However, they stipulated that any purchaser of the \$7 million site would be required to complete all improvements according to the city's plan.

ORIGINALLY, the city had planned to wait until the early 1970s to sell the 56-acre project — after all streets, sewers, and utilities had been installed. Now, the property may conceivably be sold as soon as the Redevelopment Agency finishes purchasing the land six months from now.

The agency's deputy executive director, Lawrence P. Irwin, told agency members that 85 per cent of the project property has been purchased from individual owners. Just

this week, Irwin completed arrangements for the Yamaguchi property, the largest single parcel in the project area. The agency is at least three months ahead of schedule in purchase negotiations, he said.

TEN PROPERTY owners, however, will engage the city in eminent domain court disputes over the price of their land. Final arrangements on these parcels will draw out negotiations the additional six months.

After all structures on the project site have been demolished, engineers will haul in some 150,000 cubic yards of fill to raise the land to the level of Hawthorne Boulevard, the site's western boundary.

The city had planned to begin street improvements in July, 1969.

CITY TREASURER Thomas C. Rupert interjected that the city of Torrance itself might find the project a lucrative investment. Agency members assigned Rupert to investigate the possibility.

Irwin noted that three big redevelopment companies

have showed interest in purchasing the entire site, while many smaller firms are angling for two- and three-acre segments.

After street improvements have been added, there will be 33.22 salable acres of land.

MEMBERS of the Redevelopment Agency also voted 4-3 to grant permission to Deputy Executive Director Irwin to attend a conference on urban renewal in Phoenix, Ariz., May 26 through 28. Those voting in favor of the trip were Councilmen Jay Beasley, Ken Miller, Ross Sciarrotta, and Donald E. Wilson.

"That's an odd combination!" exclaimed Mayor Albert Isen after the vote.

"It's a new block!" quipped Councilman Miller.

Councilmen held their meeting Thursday this week instead of Tuesday because new council members were attending a seminar for city officials.

RICHARD HETZEL WINS TOP CARRIER HONORS

Eleven-year-old Richard Hetzel today was named Press-Herald Carrier of the Month for April by Darrell Westcott, Press-Herald circulation manager.

Young Hetzel is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hetzel of 4809 Jacques St. The family has lived in Torrance for the past 13 years.

"A neat appearance, a pleasant smile, and lots of ambition have put Richard at the top of our Press-Herald Junior Dealer list for the month of April," Westcott said. "His subscriber list and his route profits continue to grow steadily month after month."

An active member of the YMCA Gra-Y program, Richard attends Sepulveda Elementary School. He is interested in hiking, baseball, and model building.

Richard has four brothers and two sisters.



RICHARD HETZEL

CALLED 'TOO DRAB'

Architects, City Fathers Differ on Library Plans

City Councilmen held a 5 p.m. pre-meeting Thursday to review architectural plans for the proposed main branch of the Torrance Municipal Library System to be located in the Civic Center complex — and ended up discussing the general aesthetics of the complex located at Torrance Boulevard and Maple Avenue.

Councilmen found they differed with architects in their concept of a color scheme for the complex. Plans for the \$1,250,000 main library call for an exterior of gray concrete aggregate, which architects believe would complement the theme they have in mind for the proposed City Hall addition.

Mayor Albert Isen spoke for the majority of councilmen when he objected to the fact that the gray concrete doesn't match the tawny beige of the dominating County Courthouse building on Maple Avenue.

Isen said the "drab looking building" resembled the "Bastille." Councilman Jay Beasley termed the building's exterior "cold and austere," commenting that more color might improve the appearance of the structure.

On a motion from Councilman William J. Uerkwitz, the council voted unanimously to refer the matter to the city's Library Commission for a recommendation. The lawmakers decided to have a rendering of the proposed library set up in the lobby of City Hall so that the public could view the plans.

Councilman also expressed concern about the fact that the children's library is perched on the second floor of the building and complained that they were not given a choice of several possible library designs.

Defending the choice of exterior material of the library, was Wendell Mounce,

executive vice president of Earl Heitschmidt and Associates, the architectural firm submitting the proposal. Mounce said that his firm had selected the gray concrete aggregate for economic reasons, expressing his belief that the material would pick up enough color to avoid a drab appearance.

Only councilman expressing enthusiasm for the renderings was Orin P. (Bud) Johnson. "I like it. I think it's very good," Johnson exclaimed, expressing approval of both the floorplan and design of the proposed structure.

The 50,000 square foot library building will feature a central foyer branching out to the staff, book, and public meeting areas of the facility. Few windows have been envisioned for the structure because light damages books.

The library is designed to hold 212,000 volumes.



COMPETE . . . Lee Frenchie of the Torrance Jaycees is pictured presenting trophies to Rosie Voich of Torrance High and Eric Lillo of West High. The two young people were top winners in the Jaycees' Teenage Safe Driving Road-ee and are competing this weekend in Riverside with other winners from throughout the state. The two youths each received \$25 savings bonds for their driving ability.

Registration Opens for Adult Summer Classes

Registration for summer school adult education classes will begin tomorrow from 7 to 9:30 p.m. in the adult education office, 2200 W. Carson St., according to Raymond Collins, principal.

Students working towards a high school diploma are asked to telephone FA 8-8080, Ext. 295, for an appointment to see a counselor.

Classes will start Thursday, June 20, and continue through Wednesday, July 31. Students not working towards a high school diploma will register in the classroom with the teacher.

TWENTY-TWO classes will be offered this summer. A \$3 tuition fee is charged for non-credit courses and a 50-cent fee for all new students with the exception of classes in the English for foreign born and citizenship classes.

With the exception of woodshop and physical education for women, all classes will be taught at Torrance High School. Woodshop will be offered on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 6:45 to 9:45 p.m. at North High School's shop room, and on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:45 to 9:45 p.m. in room 6104 at West High. Physical fitness for women will be offered from 7 to 9 Mondays at the West High gym.

Classes to be offered at Torrance High School are as follows: aviation; basic ground school, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, room 109; bookkeeping, Tuesday and Thursday, room 103; business machines, Monday and Wednesday, room 102; citizenship, room 108; English for foreign born, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday,

room 110; English review, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, room 98; basic Red Cross first aid, Monday, room 204; general mathematics, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, room 204.

ALSO, MODERN science, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, room 104; oil painting, Tuesday, room 123; parts compiling, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, room 106; conversational Spanish, Monday and Wednesday, room 201; beginning shorthand, Tuesday and Thursday, room 99.

Other courses are: brushup and electric typewriting, Tuesday and Thursday, rooms 101 and 102; U.S. government, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, room 202; U.S. history, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, room 205; sewing and dressmaking, Tuesday or Thursday, room 114; and traffic safety education, Tuesday and Thursday, room 99.

Torrance Marine Killed . . .

Marine Lance Cpl. Theodore (Ted) Weymouth was killed in action in Vietnam May 19, it was reported here yesterday. Corporal Weymouth, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Weymouth of 3328 Winlock Road, arrived in Vietnam last Jan. 26. A graduate of South High, he was active in the band and was a member of the Civil Air Patrol. Services for the 18-year-old Marine will be held Wednesday at 1 p.m. at the Narbonne Avenue Baptist Church, 24730 Narbonne Ave. Burial will be in Golden Gate National Cemetery, San Francisco.

Shooting Suspect Sought . . .

Police are looking for a Torrance man suspected of shooting a 24-year-old La Mirada youth late Friday night in the parking lot of a bar located at 4595 Calle Mayor. The suspect is Pierre D. Hanks, 3140 Newton St., who may be charged with assault with intent to commit murder. The victim, Rick James Dunn, was treated at Little Company of Mary Hospital for a bullet wound in the left hand. He was reported in good condition.

Councilman Faces Surgery . . .

City Councilman Jay Beasley announced at Thursday's council meeting that he faces surgery Monday at the UCLA Medical Center. The council's elder statesman said doctors plan to remove a nodule from his vocal chords, enabling him to speak more clearly. Beasley will be hospitalized one to five days.